

CLAIMS

1       1. A telephone comprising:  
2        a storage unit for storing names to be called and  
3        corresponding telephone numbers;  
4        an operating unit, including a plurality of numeric keys  
5        that are each assigned different characters, for receiving  
6        key operations made by a user;  
7        a searching means for searching the storage unit, when a  
8        numeric key on the operating unit is pressed for at least a  
9        predetermined time, for names that include a character  
10      assigned to the pressed numeric key; and  
11      a display means for displaying a search result.

1       2. The telephone of Claim 1, wherein:  
2        the searching means holds the search result in the form  
3        of a list of names found in the search; and  
4        the display means updates a display with at least one  
5        name from the name list that is not currently displayed, when  
6        the operating unit receives a display updating operation.

1       3. The telephone of Claim 2, wherein:  
2        the operating unit has a display update key for updating

3 the display of the search result; and  
4 the display updating operation is a press of the display  
5 update key.

1 4. The telephone of Claim 3, wherein:  
2 the storage unit further stores group classifications  
3 corresponding to the names;  
4 each group classification is assigned to one of the  
5 numeric keys; and  
6 when the operating unit receives a second key press of  
7 the same key for at least the predetermined time, the  
8 searching means finds names having a group classification  
9 assigned to the pressed numeric key.

1 5. The telephone of Claim 2, wherein:  
2 the operating unit has up and down keys;  
3 the display updating operation is a press of one of the  
4 up and down keys for at least the predetermined time; and  
5 the display means updates the display by:  
6 (1) displaying names from the name list that follow the  
7 currently displayed names, when the down key is pressed for  
8 at least the predetermined time; and  
9 (2) displaying names from the name list that precede the

10 currently displayed names, when the up key is pressed for at  
11 least the predetermined time.

1 6. The telephone of Claim 2, wherein the display  
2 updating operation is a second press of a numeric key for at  
3 least the predetermined time.

1 7. The telephone of Claim 1, wherein the display means:  
2 displays a predetermined number of names from the names  
3 found by the searching means, one of the displayed names  
4 being in a selection state, the name in the selection state  
5 being displayed differently to other names; and  
6 when a selection changing operation is received by the  
7 operating unit, places another name that is currently being  
8 displayed into the selection state.

1 8. The telephone of Claim 7, wherein:  
2 the operating unit has a select key for moving the  
3 selection state; and  
4 the selection changing operation is a press of the select  
5 key.

1 9. The telephone of Claim 8, wherein:

2 the storage unit further stores group classifications  
3 corresponding to the names;

4 each group classification is assigned to one of the  
5 numeric keys; and

6 when the operating unit receives a second key press of  
7 the same key for at least the predetermined time, the  
8 searching means finds names having a group classification  
9 assigned to the pressed numeric key.

*Sub B*  
10. The telephone of Claim 7, wherein:

2 the operating unit has up and down keys;

3 the selection changing operation is a press of one of the  
4 up and down keys for less than the predetermined time; and

5 the display means places in the selection state:

6 (1) a name displayed following a name currently in the  
7 selection state, when the down key is pressed for less than  
8 the predetermined time; and

9 (2) a name displayed preceding a name currently in the  
10 selection state, when the up key is pressed for less than the  
11 predetermined time.

11. The telephone of Claim 7, wherein:

2 the selection changing operation is a second press of the

3 same numeric key that was previously pressed for at least the  
4 predetermined time.

1 12. The telephone of Claim 7, comprising:

2 a calling means for reading from the storage unit, when a  
3 call operation is received from the operating means, a  
4 telephone number corresponding to a name on the display unit  
5 currently in the selection state, and calling the telephone  
number.

1 13. The telephone of Claim 12, wherein the call  
2 operation is a repeated press, for a predetermined number of  
3 times within a predetermined period, of the same numeric key  
4 that was previously pressed for at least the predetermined  
5 time.

1 14. A telephone comprising:

2 a storage unit for storing names to be called and  
3 corresponding telephone numbers;  
4 an operating unit, including a plurality of numeric keys  
5 that are each assigned different characters, for receiving  
6 key operations made by a user;  
7 a searching means for searching the storage unit, when a

8 numeric key on the operating unit is pressed for at least a  
9 predetermined time, for names that include a character  
10 assigned to the pressed numeric key; and  
11 a display means for displaying a search result  
12 wherein:  
13 the searching means holds the search result in the form  
14 of a list of names found in the search; and  
15 the display means:  
16 (1) displays a predetermined number of names from the  
17 name list, one of the displayed names in a selection state,  
18 the name in the selection state being displayed differently  
19 to other names;  
20 (2) updates a display with names from the name list that  
21 are not currently displayed, when the operating unit receives  
22 a display updating operation; and  
23 (3) places another name that is currently being displayed  
24 into the selection state, when the operating unit receives a  
25 selection changing operation.

1 15. The telephone of Claim 14, wherein:  
2 the operating unit has a display update key for updating  
3 the display of the search result, and a select key for  
4 placing a name from the search result into the selection

5 state;

6 the display updating operation is a press of the display  
7 update key; and

8 the selection changing operation is a press of the select  
9 key.

1 16. The telephone of Claim 14,

2 the storage unit further stores group classifications  
3 corresponding to the names;

4 each group classification is assigned to one of the  
5 numeric keys; and

6 when the operating unit receives a second key press of  
7 the same key for at least the predetermined time, the  
8 searching means finds names having a group classification  
9 assigned to the pressed numeric key.

1 17. The telephone of Claim 14, wherein:

2 the operating unit has up and down keys;

3 the display updating operation is a press of one of the  
4 up and down keys for at least the predetermined time;

5 the selection changing operation is a press of one of the  
6 up and down keys for less than the predetermined time;

7 the display means:

8 (1) updates the display by:

9 (a) displaying names from the name list that follow the  
10 currently displayed names, when the down key is pressed for  
11 at least the predetermined time; and

12 (b) displaying names from the name list that precede the  
13 currently displayed names, when the up key is pressed for at  
14 least the predetermined time, and

15 (2) places in the selection state:

16 (A) a name displayed following a name currently in the  
17 selection state, when the down key is pressed for less than  
18 the predetermined time; and

19 (B) a name displayed preceding a name currently in the  
20 selection state, when the up key is pressed for less than the  
21 predetermined time.

1 18. The telephone of Claim 14, wherein:

2 the display updating operation is a second press of a

3 numeric key for at least the predetermined time; and

4 the selection changing operation is a press, for less

5 than the predetermined time, of the same numeric key that was  
6 previously pressed for at least the predetermined time.

1 19. The telephone of Claim 18, comprising a calling

2 means for reading from the storage unit, when a call  
3 operation is received from the operating means, a telephone  
4 number corresponding to a name on the display unit currently  
5 in the selection state, and calling the telephone number,  
6 wherein the call operation is a repeated press, for a  
7 predetermined number of times within a predetermined period,  
8 of the same numeric key that was previously pressed for at  
9 least the predetermined time.

1 20. The telephone of Claim 14, comprising a calling  
2 means for reading from the storage unit, when a call  
3 operation is received from the operating means, a telephone  
4 number corresponding to a name on the display unit currently  
5 in the selection state, and calling the telephone number.

1 21. The telephone of Claim 20, wherein the call  
2 operation is a repeated press, for a predetermined number of  
3 times within a predetermined period, of the same numeric key  
4 that was previously pressed for at least the predetermined  
5 time.